

# JUNE 2012

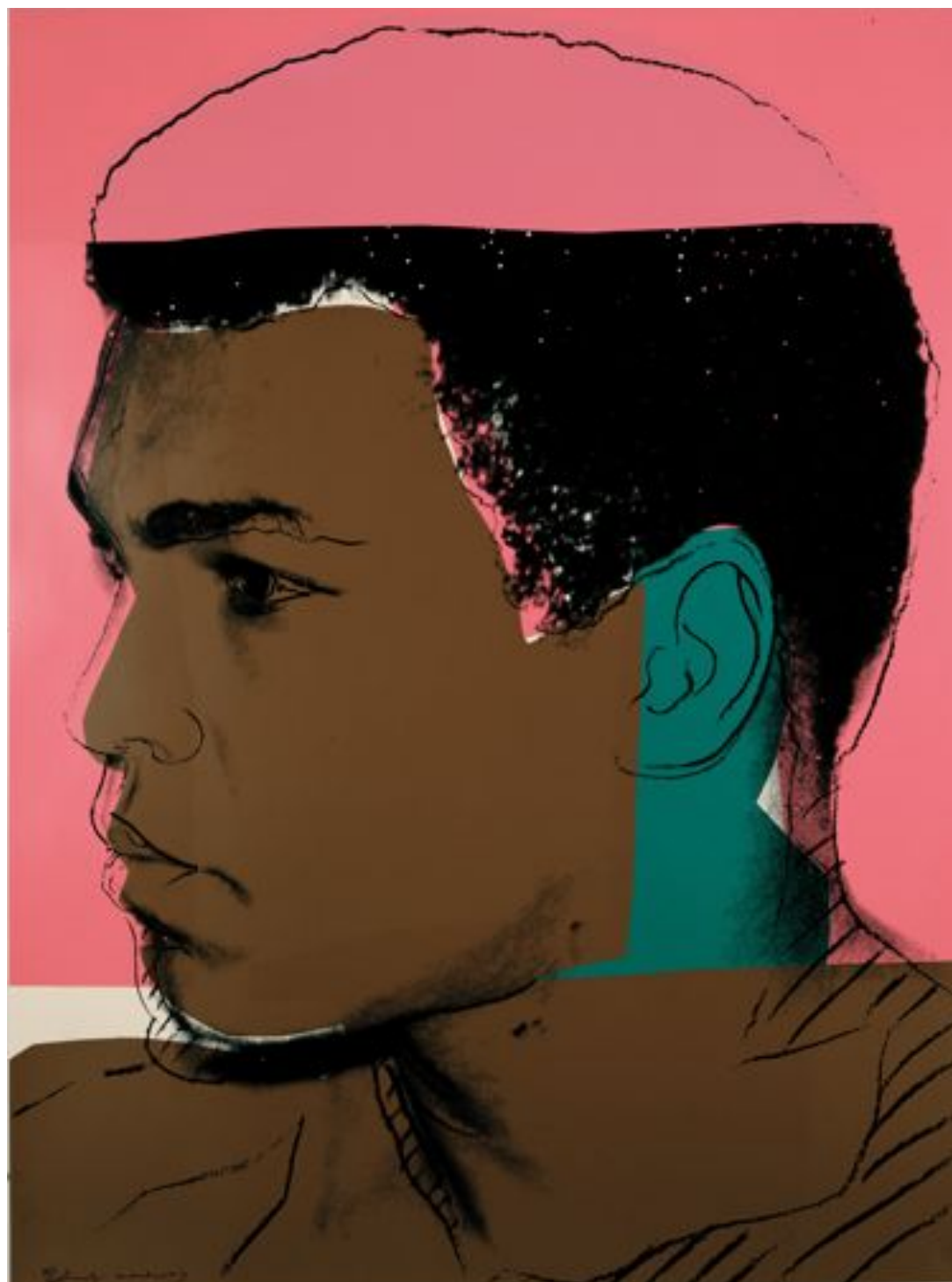
A four-day weekend for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee gets the month started, followed by Yoko Ono, Andy Warhol, Wimbledon and Radio 1's Hackney Weekend.



*Yoko Ono at the Serpentine Gallery*

SKY LADDERS, 2007 © YOKO ONO FROM SOGNARE, MUSEO DI SANTA CATERINA, TREVISO, ITALY PHOTO BY STEPHAN CRASNEANSKI





LONDON ART

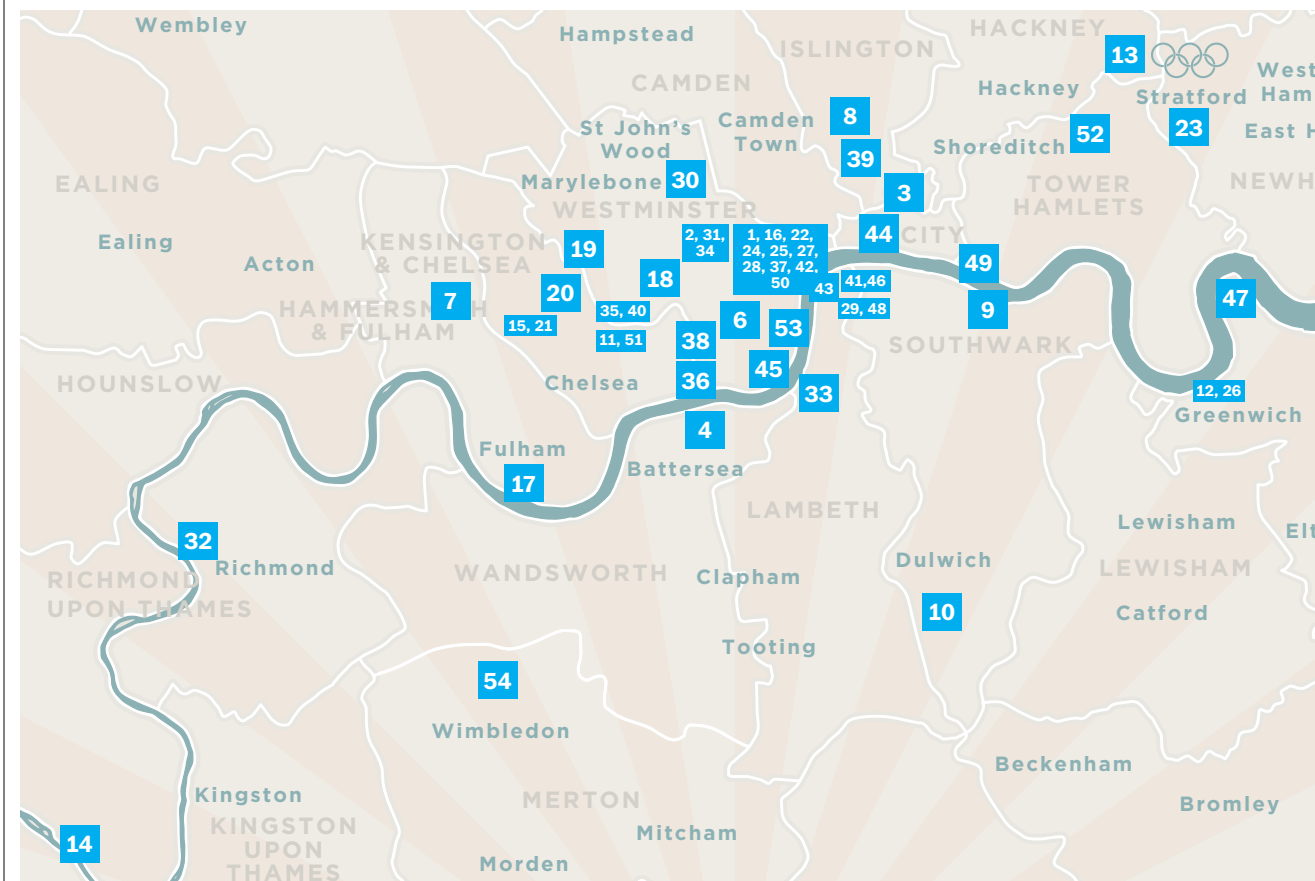
# ANDY WARHOL: THE PORTFOLIOS

Three-month exhibition from pop art heavyweight

Warhol made four prints of Muhammad Ali in 1981 - the year the boxer retired - and this one sold at auction 20 years later for \$28,750. The Ali Portfolio, on display at the Dulwich Picture Gallery this summer **PAGE 79**, is not to be confused with a similar series of the boxer and other famous sports stars that was stolen from the home of a Los Angeles collector in 2009.

LONDON EVENTS

# WHAT'S ON WHERE IN JUNE



- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>01 Adelphi Theatre</b><br>Page 20                 | <b>15 Holland Park Theatre</b><br>Page 76                | <b>29 Old Vic Theatre</b><br>Page 78                 | <b>43 Southbank Centre</b><br>Pages 33, 58, 74, 77 & 81 |
| <b>02 Apollo Theatre</b><br>Page 33                  | <b>16 Horse Guards Parade</b><br>Page 78                 | <b>30 Regent's Park</b><br>Pages 77 & 79             | <b>44 St Paul's Cathedral</b><br>Pages 76 & 80          |
| <b>03 Barbican Centre</b><br>Pages 56, 81 & 82       | <b>17 Hurlingham Park</b><br>Page 77                     | <b>31 Photographer's Gallery</b><br>Page 60          | <b>45 Tate Britain</b><br>Pages 19 & 79                 |
| <b>04 Battersea Park</b><br>Page 75                  | <b>18 Hyde Park</b><br>Pages 75 & 77                     | <b>32 Richmond Theatre</b><br>Page 78                | <b>46 Tate Modern</b><br>Pages 19, 33 & 82              |
| <b>05 British Museum</b><br>Pages 20, 55 & 79        | <b>19 Kensington Gardens</b><br>Page 58                  | <b>33 River Thames</b><br>Page 74                    | <b>47 The O2 Arena</b><br>Page 77                       |
| <b>06 Buckingham Palace</b><br>Pages 54, 74, 76 & 82 | <b>20 Kensington Palace</b><br>Page 20                   | <b>34 Royal Academy of Arts</b><br>Page 76           | <b>48 The Young Vic</b><br>Pages 61 & 78                |
| <b>07 Bush Theatre</b><br>Page 61                    | <b>21 Kensington Roof Gardens</b><br>Page 77             | <b>35 Royal Albert Hall</b><br>Pages 75 & 80         | <b>49 Tower of London</b><br>Page 76                    |
| <b>08 Business Design Centre</b><br>Page 81          | <b>22 London Coliseum (ENO)</b><br>Pages 58, 62, 78 & 81 | <b>36 Royal Hospital Chelsea</b><br>Page 82          | <b>50 Trafalgar Square</b><br>Pages 75 & 79             |
| <b>09 Design Museum</b><br>Pages 19 & 54             | <b>23 London Olympic Park</b><br>Page 54                 | <b>37 Royal Opera House</b><br>Pages 61, 62, 81 & 82 | <b>51 V &amp; A Museum</b><br>Page 20 & 60              |
| <b>10 Dulwich Picture Gallery</b><br>Page 79         | <b>24 Mall Galleries</b><br>Page 80                      | <b>38 Saatchi Gallery</b><br>Page 38                 | <b>52 Victoria Park</b><br>Pages 75 & 78                |
| <b>11 Exhibition Road</b><br>Page 80                 | <b>25 National Gallery</b><br>Page 19                    | <b>39 Sadler's Wells Theatre</b><br>Page 62 & 76     | <b>53 Westminster College</b><br>Page 77                |
| <b>12 Greenwich</b><br>Page 79                       | <b>26 National Maritime Msm.</b><br>Page 38              | <b>40 Serpentine Gallery</b><br>Pages 74 & 79        | <b>54 Wimbledon</b><br>Page 81                          |
| <b>13 Hackney Marshes</b><br>Page 80                 | <b>27 National Portrait Gallery</b><br>Pages 59 & 79     | <b>41 Shakespeare's Globe</b><br>Pages 33 & 37       |   |
| <b>14 Hampton Court Palace</b><br>Page 78            | <b>28 Noel Coward Theatre</b><br>Page 19                 | <b>42 Somerset House</b><br>Page 77                  |   |

MUHAMMAD ALI 1978, BANK OF AMERICA COLLECTION © THE ANDY WARHOL FOUNDATION





# June

Liz celebrates 60 years on the throne as the festival season hits full swing

## From 1<sup>st</sup> Festival of the World

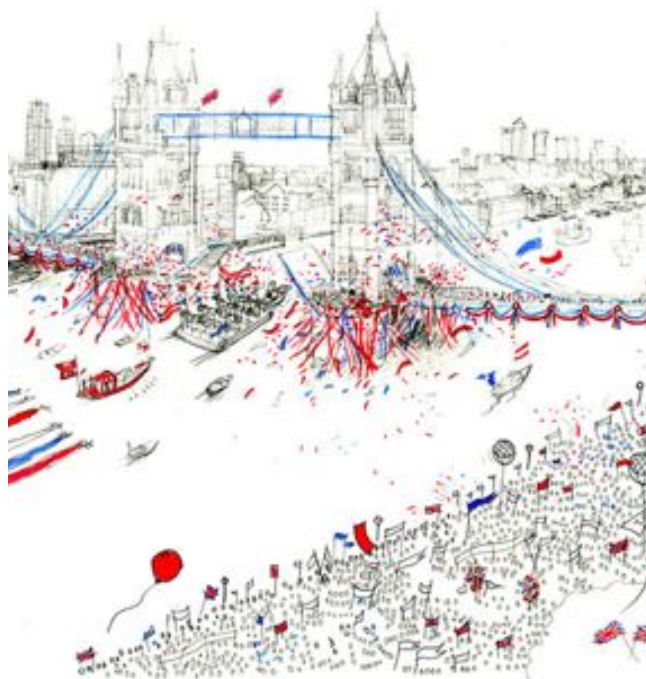
1st June - 9th September 2012  
**Southbank Centre, London SE1 8XX**  
 Inspired by the cultural vision of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the Festival of the World has got it all. From the UK's largest ever poetry festival to an urban beach with a twist, the Southbank Centre will be transformed to show visitors how art can transform lives. Running throughout the summer as London celebrates the 2012 Olympics, the festival is based around Coubertin, a founder of the modern Olympic movement, and his belief that the arts could inspire young people in a manner similar to how sport can. The combination of sport and art is a theme common in many festivals this summer and, with a packed out programme of events at Southbank, you'll be hard pressed not to find something to enjoy here.

## From 1<sup>st</sup> Serpentine Gallery Pavilion

1st June - 31st October 2012  
**Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 3XA**  
 The world-renowned architect pairing of Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron together with Chinese conceptual artist Ai Weiwei will create the 2012 Serpentine Gallery Pavilion, the twelfth commission in the annual series. The design team behind the highly acclaimed Beijing National Stadium, the winner of a prestigious RIBA Lubetkin Prize, will reunite for their first ever collaborative structure built in the UK. This year's Pavilion takes visitors beneath the lawns of the Serpentine to explore the hidden history of the eleven previous Pavilions, as well as the twelfth. The often edgy Serpentine Gallery Pavilion is the most ambitious architectural project of its kind in the world and will be presented as part of the London 2012 Festival.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

2nd - 5th June 2012  
**Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA**  
 Queen Elizabeth II has been sitting pretty on the throne for 60 long years now, and if that's not an excuse for a right royal knees-up then the four-day extended weekend certainly is. School gates will close and shops shut as Brits take to the streets for four days of frolics to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The festivities kick off in May (see: The Diamond Jubilee Pageant at Windsor Castle, 10th to 13th May 2012 [PAGE 58](#)), but the real revelry begins in June with a big blowout commencing on Friday 2nd June and stretching to two bank holidays on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th June. Across the country neighbours are encouraged to join in a Big Jubilee Lunch, anything from little community get-togethers, to full blown street parties with food, music and dancing in the streets. A grand pageant will take place on the River Thames at high tide on Sunday 3rd June. A thousand boats will gather on the water, little and large, old and new and all waving Union Jacks towards the shore as they are led by the Queen's Thames cruiser. It promises to be a real sight to behold with daytime fireworks colouring the sky as bells chime, trumpets fanfare and the crowds cheer. Millions of people are expected to line the banks and as many as 20,000 people will take to the river making this one of the largest celebrations London has ever seen. The BBC will also put on a Jubilee Concert at Buckingham Palace featuring British and Commonwealth musicians, and up and down the kingdom celebratory beacons will be lit to mark the occasion. To top it all off, pubs will be given special late licensing to accommodate late-night Lizzy lock-ins.



The Queen's 1,000-boat flotilla along the Thames will be the biggest since the reign of Charles II three-and-a-half centuries ago

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant

Sunday 3rd June 2012  
**River Thames, Putney to Tower Bridge, London**

THE QUEEN LEADS A FLOTILLA OF UP TO 1,000 BOATS from the UK, the Commonwealth and around the world for the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant, an event which promises to be one of the major focal points of the celebrations held on the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend. The flotilla, expected to measure seven and a half miles from end to end, will be the largest fleet of ships to be assembled on the River Thames in 350 years, continuing a royal tradition which dates back to 1533 when Anne Boleyn travelled by boat for her coronation. Over one million people are expected to line the banks of the Thames to witness the pageant which will include a diverse mix of the historic and the modern with rowed boats, sailing ships, steamers, wooden launches, canoes and kayaks all decorated for the occasion. Thames piers, riverside roads and bridges will be closed to traffic and there will be up to fifty big screens along the route - which runs from Battersea Bridge to Tower Bridge - so members of the public can enjoy the pageant from a variety of vantage points. For families and others with children, Battersea Park is a good place to go where there will be music, a traditional funfair and special entertainment laid on. There's a cultural aspect to The Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant, serving as a reminder of the diversity of Britain and the Commonwealth's maritime history. But undoubtedly most people will remember it as an amazing spectacle.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> The Epsom Derby

Saturday 2nd June 2012  
**Epsom Downs Racecourse, Surrey KT18 5LQ**  
 The Queen will begin her Diamond Jubilee weekend celebrations by attending The Epsom Derby. This famous race meeting is one of the oldest and greatest horse races in the world, established by the Earl of Derby in 1779. The event is just one of a series of special celebrations marking the Queen's 60th anniversary which gives us an extended weekend with an additional Bank Holiday on Tuesday 5th June. The Queen's grand arrival by carriage, quite a spectacle, will be watched by thousands of spectators in their best togs. Trains from London to Epsom Downs take approximately 1 hour.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> The Jubilee Family Festival

2nd - 3rd June 2012  
**Hyde Park, London W2 2UH**  
 Sainsbury's is hosting a two day festival in Hyde Park this summer to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Visitors will be treated to live music and entertainment, with the highlight perhaps being a 70 minute finale on both days comprised of Disney

songs and characters. Promoter Harvey Goldsmith is organising the festival, which will feature a full programme of activities including celebrity performers, equestrian events, death-defying motorbike stunts and kids television characters. The festival will showcase Britain throughout the decades, with street performers, orchestral recitals, military displays and Commonwealth dancers.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Day 2012

Saturday 2nd June 2012  
**Victoria Park, Tower Hamlets, London E3 5SN**  
 East London's Field Day offers a more diverse, fresh selection of acts than some of the more mainstream pop festivals in London. Think subdued electro, melancholic folk, bold dance acts, and a dreamy summer vibe to match. Celebrating its sixth birthday in 2012, this year's line-up looks like a corker with the Balkan-folk inspired band Beirut headlining, and Scottish indie rockers Franz Ferdinand, electro popsters Metronomy and dubstep DJ SBTRKT all taking to the stage. Neighbouring clubs put on some cracking after-parties to carry those dancing feet through till dawn. Just keep your fingers crossed that the sun shines over leafy Victoria Park.



Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge at Epsom

## 2<sup>nd</sup> A Gala for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Saturday 2nd June 2012  
**Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, London SW7 2AP**  
 Celebrate 60 years of Queen Elizabeth II with an evening of rousing favourites performed by celebrated English tenor Russell Watson. Taking place in the magnificent Royal Albert Hall, the Gala will include classics such as Land of Hope and Glory, We'll Meet Again, You'll Never Walk Alone, Jerusalem, Greensleeves, Men of Harlech and Rule, Britannia! and features soprano Natasha Marsh, the Royal Choral Society and the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra. Jae Alexander will conduct this fabulous assortment of British favourites in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> The Apple Cart Festival

Sunday 3rd June 2012  
**Victoria Park, Tower Hamlets, London E3 5SN**  
 Bringing together music, comedy, art, literature, magic, food, fun and games, the Apple Cart Festival was new last year and is a summer family-friendly all-dayer in Victoria Park. Last year the music stage was headlined by indie dance pioneers Saint Etienne supported by songsmith Badly Drawn Boy. Stand-up was offered by the likes of Tim Minchin and Marcus Brigstocke, while there were DJ sets from Gilles Peterson, Sean Rowley of Guilty Pleasures and Kevin Rowland. While the line-up for 2012 has yet to be confirmed we can expect popular guests, plus high-end catering from hand-picked traders from London's best food markets.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Diamond Jubilee Festival at Battersea Park

Sunday 3rd June 2012  
**Battersea Park, London SW11 4NJ**  
 On the day of the Queen's Thames Diamond Jubilee River Pageant, Battersea Park will be host to a family friendly Jubilee Festival featuring vintage



Diamonds are forever: Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip

music, dance, crafts, a funfair and a multitude of other entertainments. Beginning at 12 noon, in anticipation of the flotilla, and continuing until 7pm, the Diamond Jubilee Festival at Battersea Park will feature a diamond geezer pop-up pub - where every self-respecting pearly king and queen will be for a right old knees-up - and a diamond encrusted giant cake stand that will take over 1,000 Diamond Jubilee themed cakes which will be served with tea throughout the afternoon. Cake specialists Konditor and Cook have even created a portrait of the Queen made of 3,120 cakes, one for each week of her reign. The festival, which has been organised by designer Wayne Hemingway and artist Clare Patey who curated Feast on the Bridge for the Thames Festival, will be a memorable celebration of the Diamond Jubilee through a timeline of the six decades of the Queen's reign with music, dancing, design and plenty of opportunities for dressing up - from vintage fashions to Morris dancing. There'll be a village fete, storytelling, outdoor cinema, an old fashioned steam fair, a fancy dress flotilla on the Boating Lake, and a mini-museum of royal memorabilia at the park's Pump House Gallery.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> The Big Jubilee Lunch

Sunday 3rd June 2012  
**Streets in London & nationwide**  
 The fourth annual Big Lunch takes on a dual role in 2012 as it falls on the weekend we celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Sunday 3rd June. With



around 10 million people taking to the streets to celebrate the 1977 Silver Jubilee, organisers are hoping for a big turn-out at the 2012 Big Jubilee Lunch. The great thing about The Big Jubilee Lunch is that everyone can take part; it's all about the community coming together for some patriotic flag waving, plenty of food, perhaps some music and a bouncy castle but most of all for some good old fashioned fun.

**4<sup>th</sup> BBC Concert at Buckingham Palace**

*Monday 4th June 2012*  
**Buckingham Palace, London, SW1A 1AA**

On Monday 4th June 2012 there will be a televised Diamond Jubilee Concert at Buckingham Palace organised by the BBC to mark the Queen's 60th year on the throne. Tickets are available to UK residents by public ballot and details on how to apply for the concert will be available in due course. Details of the musical programme are still to be confirmed but there are plans to feature British and Commonwealth musicians. Surely the obvious choice would be a reformation of Brian May's Queen - or a Sex Pistols reformation so Johnny Rotten can sing his rendition of the National Anthem.

**4<sup>th</sup> The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons**

*Monday 4th June 2012*  
**Tower of London, St James's Palace & Lambeth Palace, London**

A network of 2,012 beacons will be lit across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Commonwealth on Monday 4th June to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The Queen herself is taking part, lighting the National Beacon in London (location yet to be confirmed) at around 10.30pm, after the televised BBC Concert at Buckingham Palace. In London, beacons will be lit on the battlements of the Tower Of London, St James's Palace, and Lambeth Palace at the same time as hundreds of beacons are lit across the country.

**From 4<sup>th</sup> Royal Academy Summer Exhibition**

*4th June - 12th August 2012*  
**Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BD**

Anyone can submit to the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition which gives it a wonderful element of surprise. Around 12,000 pieces are sifted through from relative unknowns to famous artists and members of the RA. The

fun part for visitors is choosing a favourite and, with the majority of works on sale at varying price ranges, you can even buy one if you really fall in love with it. First held in 1768, this is the largest regular contemporary art exhibition in the world. It's an impressive show that gives an excellent cross-section of contemporary art every summer.

**5<sup>th</sup> The Queen's Diamond Jubilee: Service of Thanksgiving and Carriage Procession**

*Tuesday 5th June 2012*  
**St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4M 8AD**

The Queen and other members of the Royal Family attend a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, one of several events being staged on the extended four-day weekend to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The Queen and her close family will travel in a formal carriage procession, adding to the occasion. In choosing to mark her 60th year on the throne at St Paul's Cathedral, the Queen follows in the footsteps of Queen Victoria who also chose Sir Christopher Wren's great domed cathedral to commemorate her diamond jubilee in 1897. The Queen has also celebrated her previous jubilees



*Polo returns to Hurlingham Park in Fulham this summer*

at St Paul's, as well as marking her 80th birthday there in 2006.

**6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch: World Cities 2012**

*6th June - 9th July 2012*  
**Sadler's Wells & Barbican, London**

In order to commemorate the late influential dance choreographer Pina Bausch, Sadler's Wells and the Barbican are presenting a month long season of international co-productions. After living in a specific city somewhere in the world for a period of time, Bausch's company would then create a piece drawing on inspirations from that particular city. This event will be remembering this with the month long programme including presentations such as Palermo, a humorous piece looking at Sicily's capital, and Ten Chi, a dance piece featuring visual imagery, hand gestures, Polynesian dance movement and more.

**From 7<sup>th</sup> Opera Holland Park Season**

*7th June - 4th August 2012*  
**Holland Park, Kensington, London W8 6LU**

Thomas Kemp will conduct a new production of *Così fan Tutte* as part of the 2012 Opera Holland Park Season. A talented cast including Elizabeth Llewellyn and Andrew Staples will be directed by Harry Fehr in one of the season's most exciting highlights. Also on the bill for 2012: Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, a brand new production at Opera Holland Park, in a double bill



*The BBC's special Jubilee concert outside Buckingham Palace*

with Mascagni's *Zanetto*; Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, a charity gala in aid of The Rugby Portobello Trust; the very best from Verdi and Tchaikovsky; and a revival of *Fantastic Mr Fox*, especially designed to be performed in the gardens of Holland Park.

**8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Blink 182**

*8th - 9th June 2012*  
**The O2 Arena, Greenwich, London SE10 0DX**

Recently reunited American pop-punk rock band Blink 182 hit The O2 Arena, unleashing new material for the first time since splitting in 2005. The 'All The Small Things' band were supposed to tour the UK last year but were forced to postpone as comeback album *Neighborhoods* took longer to make than anticipated. Tom DeLonge, Mark Hoppus and Travis Barker return to see their loyal UK fans, most of whom have made the transition from angry teenager to fully functioning adult and might well be forgiven for asking 'What's My Age Again?' when looking down at their fan tattoos. Known for their tongue-in-cheek stage shows and zany antics, let's hope they've been worth the wait.

**8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> MINT Polo in the Park**

*8th - 10th June 2012*  
**Hurlingham Park, London SW6 3NG**

Now in its fourth year, Polo in the Park is quickly becoming one of London's great summer outdoors events. Aimed at bringing polo to the people, the three-day World Series event showcases a more accessible version of the sport, mirroring the effect Twenty20 has had on cricket. Last year saw teams of three taking part from cities including London, New York, Moscow, Buenos Aires and Sydney. There's usually a steady flow of celebrities (Jodie Kidd) and royalty (Princess Beatrice), not to mention medieval jousting and an array of bars, shops and food stalls.

**9<sup>th</sup> World Naked Bike Ride**

*Saturday 9th June 2012*  
**Hyde Park, London W2 2UH**

There's a good reason why professional cyclists wear lycra: to hold their privates in the right place so as to avoid unnecessary chafing (or entrapment) with the saddle. For naturalists and exhibitionists who are prepared to risk getting all tangled up, the World

Naked Bike Ride is just the job. Last year more than 1,000 people took off their clothes and rode around the capital nude to raise awareness of the need for more tolerance of bicycles on the roads of the city. Part of a unified world event, the London Naked Bike Ride does make exemptions for those a bit too shy to reveal all, with a "go as bare as you dare" policy accepted too.

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> Open Garden Squares Weekend**

*9th - 10th June 2012*  
**Various private gardens around London**

From the iron-fenced residential parks of west London to the landscaped churchyards of the City, hundreds of garden squares play a vital part in maintaining London's status as one of Europe's greenest cities. The wonderful Open Garden Squares Weekend is the one time of the year when these gardens open their gates to everyone - many of these private spaces are not accessible to the public for the rest of the year. Over 200 gardens took part last year, including the minimalist Zen Garden at The Hempel hotel, Little Abbey near Westminster Abbey, and Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School near Whitechapel, who inspired visitors to 'grow your own' with their roof garden. The Royal College of Physicians' medicinal garden allowed guests to discover 1,000 different medicinal plants as well as enjoying the immaculate lawns Londoners walk past every day but have never been allowed onto. If you have youngsters in tow, many of the gardens stage activities for families too. Tickets allow entry to all participating gardens.

**9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> London Green Fair**

*9th - 10th June 2012*  
**Regent's Park, London NW1 4NR**

When the Camden Green Fair started 20 years ago, its organisers can only have dreamed that the event would have evolved into what it is today. Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the London Green Fair as 25,000 people descend on Regent's Park

to celebrate environmentally friendly London. Contemporary music, high-profile guest speakers, poetry, children's activities, workshops, exhibitions and even a bicycle-powered music area - you'll find all this and much more as natural and charitable organisations collaborate to educate and empower Londoners on the benefits of environmentally friendly living. What's more, the event is totally free.

**11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> London Jewellery Week**

*11th - 17th June 2012*  
**Somerset House, The Strand, London WC2R 1LA**

There can be precious few people who aren't partial to a sparkling piece of jewellery and London Jewellery Week will provide Londoners with the chance to celebrate the city's unique heritage for high quality jewellery design. Whether you're looking for the latest and most glamorous piece to add to your collection or you're a novice buyer, desperately seeking expert advice, this is the place to be. This is the UK's biggest jewellery festival and thousands of people will descend upon the main hub at Somerset House and various other venues across London to seek out that perfect new bracelet or shiny gold ring.

**From 12<sup>th</sup> London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT)**

*12th June - 15th July 2012*  
**Various locations in London**

LIFT returns to the capital at theatres, arts venues and other sites around London with a huge range of live performances, art exhibitions and events from a talented and eclectic bunch of international performers. Events take place on the streets, squares and promenades of London from Canning Town to Harlesden and major venues include the Barbican Centre, National Theatre, Southbank Centre and Institute of Contemporary Arts. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved online or in person, before, during and after performances. Tickets usually sell out fast for major productions - so get on the case while you can.



*Around 12,000 entries compete for wall space in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition every year*



**12<sup>th</sup> House of Lords v House of Commons Tug of War**

*Tuesday 12th June 2012*  
**Westminster College Garden, London SW1P 3PA**  
 They managed to raise over £110,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support last year and this summer they're going at it again - the annual House of Lords v House of Commons Tug of War is back for a 25th year. The typically English setting of Westminster College Gardens plays host to this light-hearted skirmish between these two houses of Parliament as they battle it out to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. Last year it was the Commons who came out on top as they retained their title with a 2-0 victory over the Lords. BBC2's Jeremy Vine often plays the role of commentator and brings a witty repertoire to the occasion.

**12<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Minsk, 2011: A reply to Kathy Acker**

*12th - 23rd June 2012*  
**Young Vic, Waterloo, London SE1 8LZ**  
 As part of the LIFT Festival, this eagerly anticipated play comes to the Old Vic Theatre, adapted and directed by

Vladimir Shcherban. Telling the tale of modern day Minsk, the play is a thought-provoking and heartbreaking homage to a city from those who have left it behind. Delving deep into the underground scene of strip clubs and underground raves, Minsk is portrayed as a city where sexuality is contorted by oppression. A Russian masterpiece with English subtitles, this could well prove to be one of the stand-out shows on the London theatre scene in 2012.

**From 13<sup>th</sup> Ealing Comedy Festival**

*13th - 14th & 18th - 20th July 2012*  
**Walpole Park, Ealing, London W5 5BQ**  
 The Annual Ealing Comedy Festival returns to Walpole Park in Ealing this July and is sure to feature another stellar line-up of comedy acts. The likes of Ed Byrne, Stephen K Amos, Alistair McGowan, Omid Djalili, Lee Mack and Sean Lock have all appeared over the last few years, making this one of the most renowned comedy festivals of the year. Running for five nights under the big top tent, the Comedy Festival is part of the Ealing Summer Festivals programme.

**14<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Hampton Court**

**Palace Festival**

*14th - 23rd June 2012*  
**Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, KT8 9AU**  
 The Hampton Court Palace Festival returns for its 20th year with over 10 nights of concerts featuring some top performers for the older generation, including Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. The grown-up nature of the line-up is entirely in sync with the nature of the mature vibe of the festival, which takes place in the 17th-century courtyard and gardens of the lavish Tudor palace. Guests can bring their own picnic hampers full of goodies or take advantage of the pre-ordered Villandry picnic options on offer. Drinks and more basic meal options are also available from stalls, while those who want to go the whole hog can opt for the Hampton Court hospitality package, which includes VIP seating, a champagne reception with canapés, and a dinner with fine wines.

**15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Lovebox**

*15th - 17th June 2012*  
**Victoria Park, Tower Hamlets, London E3 5SN**  
 Lovebox has never had a problem attracting festival-goers, what with the exceptional line-ups on offer: Hot Chip, Friendly Fires, Emeli Sandé and Crystal Castles are amongst those taking to the stage this year. Set up by Groove Armada and inspired by Glastonbury, Lovebox is the park party that comes closest to capturing the vibe of a proper festival, with a huge range of musical styles (each day has its own identity) across multiple stages, and a friendly, music-loving crowd. Victoria Park is a great festival venue, with loads of space and a sympathetic council who let them turn the music up really loud.

**16<sup>th</sup> Trooping the Colour**

*Saturday 16th June 2012*  
**Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, London SW1A 2AX**  
 To mark the second of the Queen's two birthdays (this is the official one, her actual birthday is on 21st April), Trooping the Colour presents a vibrant display of ceremony and military

history. It's a spectacular piece of pageantry but also a timely reminder of the role of the armed forces who are - in theory at least - under the Queen's control. Hundreds of well-disciplined soldiers in full dress uniform march past at the Horse Guards Parade, and a different Battalion gives the Royal Salute each year, all accompanied by stirring military music from the massed bands. Less crowded rehearsals take place on the two Saturdays prior to the grand event.

**17<sup>th</sup> Jimmy Carr: Gagging Order**

*Sunday 17th June 2012*  
**Richmond Theatre, Richmond, London TW9 1QJ**  
 The hardest working man in comedy, Jimmy Carr, brings his acerbic (and often vile) scattergun gags to venues across London in 2012 and 2013 as part of his new Gagging Order tour. He may tone down his material for TV shows like Channel 4's 8 Out Of 10 Cats, Alternative Election Night and 10 O'Clock Live but a quick browse on Chortle reveals many complaints about Carr's crassness: "too many disgusting sex jokes," laments one; "total appalling use of foul offensive material," harrumphs another; "the show at times is that bad it makes you feel sick," offers a third, gagging.

**From 18<sup>th</sup> Billy Budd**

*18th June - 8th July 2012*  
**London Coliseum (ENO), London WC2N 4ES**  
 The production team that brought you ENO's award-winning Peter Grimes return to the London Coliseum to present Benjamin Britten's Billy Budd, an opera based on the short novel of the same name by Herman Melville. Starring Benedict Nelson (fresh from a star turn as Demetrius in 2011's A Midsummer Night's Dream) in the title role, Matthew Rose and Toby Spence, this re-imagining sees the award-winning director-conductor partnership of

David Alden and Edward Gardner brought together again. This splendidly orchestrated all-male opera was originally commissioned for the original Festival of Britain in 1951.

**19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Royal Ascot**

*19th - 23rd June 2012*  
**Ascot Racecourse, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7JX**  
 Royal Ascot returns to the Berkshire racecourse where it has been pretty much an annual fixture since 1711. With nearly £4 million in prize money at stake, this meeting attracts all the biggest names in the racing fraternity. And, of course, more than 300,000 visitors, all dressed in their finest attire. Ascot is as famous for its hats as it is for the racing, especially on 'Ladies' Day' where women try to outdo each other with tremendous towering creations and outlandish designs. The gents usually go for a more understated look - with morning suits and top hats the norm. It's as much a giant outdoor party as a race meet: punters at the track will drink over 150,000 bottles of champagne, 14,000 bottles of Pimm's and, of course, will place untold millions in bets.

**From 19<sup>th</sup> Yoko Ono**

*19th June - 9th September 2012*  
**Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 3XA**  
 The Serpentine Gallery presents a major exhibition of work by celebrated artist Yoko Ono as part of the London 2012 Festival. The exhibition will include SMILE, a large-scale participatory project that invites people to upload and send images of their smiles in order to create a global collection. The exhibition will feature new and exciting works, many of which will be seen by UK audiences for the first time. Ono - the former wife of the late Beatle John Lennon - has made a huge impact on contemporary art whilst working as an artist, filmmaker, poet, musician, writer and peace activist over the past 50 years. She is renowned for her boundary-defying works of art and this showcase of her finest work should be a big hit on the London art scene.

IMAGE COURTESY HAMPTON COURT PALACE

IMAGE COURTESY DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY

**From 20<sup>th</sup> Andy Warhol: The Portfolios**

*20th June - 16th September 2012*  
**Dulwich Picture Gallery, London SE21 7AD**  
 The iconic artist is showcased at the Dulwich Picture Gallery in a three-month exhibition in which some of Warhol's most famous print portfolios will be on display alongside some of his lesser known works in an exhibition that is set to delight London art fans. Works include the Muhammad Ali and Myths portfolios that were produced just six years before the artist's death in 1987. Warhol was one of the leading figures in the visual art movement that became known as 'pop art'. His works have sold for millions of US dollars - the highest price ever paid for a Warhol painting is \$100 million for a 1963 canvas called Eight Elvises.

**21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Taste of London**

*21st - 24th June 2012*  
**Regent's Park, London NW1 4NR**  
 Direct your rumbling stomach to Regent's Park for four days of alfresco gluttony as over forty of London's best restaurants, including a flurry of Michelin stars, show off their culinary handiwork. Work your way

through a range of miniature speciality dishes - bought with the event's currency, 'crowns' - hot off the plates from upmarket places like Scott's, L'Anima, Petrus, Launceston Place, Benares, Bocca Di Lupo and Sky-lon - to name but a bunch. Top chefs such as Michel Roux Jr, Pierre Koffmann, Silvena Rowe, Chris Galvin and Gary Rhodes will be doing the rounds, while the civilised sounds of live jazz and opera will fill the air and aid digestion at this gourmet grazing picnic extraordinaire.

**21<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Greenwich and Docklands International Festival**

*21st - 30th June 2012*  
**Greenwich town centre, London SE10**  
 The whole of Greenwich comes alive for this 10-day free festival of street performances, family entertainment, theatre, art and dancing in the streets. Renowned for its outdoor dance spectacles, last year's GDIF was as strong as ever with performances by Marc Brew Company, Luca Silvestri's Protein, Company Chameleon, Up and Over It and Avant Garde Dance. Canary Wharf also had the popular Dancing City, where Seville's Producciones

Imperdibles featured Spanish dancers overhead on a transparent stage. The line-up for 2012 is still to be announced, but with events taking place across Maritime Greenwich, the Isle of Dogs, Canary Wharf, Stratford and Woolwich, there's bound to be plenty to keep the expected crowds of 50,000 entertained.

**From 21<sup>st</sup> London 2012 Festival**

*21st June - 9th September 2012*  
**Various venues in London**  
 The London 2012 Festival is perhaps the biggest and most action-packed festival to hit these shores in a long time. With an astonishing 10 million opportunities to witness 1,000 different performances and events, the chances are that you'll find something to your liking. The festival opens on 21st June and runs all summer until the end of the Paralympic Games in early September. Many events are free, with dance, music, fashion, food, film, art and much, much more going on. The festival is being designed to be bigger and better than ever to coincide with the London Olympics and is a culmination of the four-year Cultural Olympiad. Tickets can be purchased on the festival website, with a handy breakdown of each category of events to help steer you in your desired direction.

**From 21<sup>st</sup> London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Posters**

*21st June - 21st September 2012*  
**Tate Britain, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG**  
 Twelve artists have put their thoughts on the Olympics to paper for the official Olympic and Paralympics posters for London 2012 and Tate Britain is giving visitors the opportunity to admire the pieces at a free exhibition during the Cultural Olympiad. The posters include Rachel Whiteread's take on the Olympic Rings, which are also meant to represent marks left by drinking glasses to symbolize the memories of a social gathering. Another piece is Chris Ofili's For The Unknown Runner, which depicts a blend of super-athlete and mythical creature running



Take a trip to Dulwich to see the Warhol Portfolios



A splendid backdrop at the Hampton Court Palace Festival



past a watching crowd. Further official posters were created by artists including Anthea Hamilton, Howard Hodgkin, Martin Creed, and Bridget Riley.

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> West Side Story**

*22nd - 24th June 2012*  
**Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, London SW7 2AP**  
 Fifty years after the release of the iconic musical West Side Story the Royal Albert Hall puts on a spectacular show to celebrate the original movie in all its glory. The film will be screened in high definition and will be brought to life by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra. The emotionally charged score will still feature the original vocals on songs like 'Tonight', 'Somewhere' and 'I Feel Pretty'. Set in hot and restless downtown New-York in the 1950s, Tony and Maria are our American Romeo and Juliet who find themselves torn between warring families and rival gangs until the situation inevitably ends in tragedy. The 1961 film won ten Academy Awards and featured a remarkable performance from Natalie Wood, whose tragic drowning continues to cause mystery and controversy in the press. The show only runs for three nights so be sure to book soon if you don't want to miss out.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Exhibition Road Music Day**

*Saturday 23rd June 2012*  
**Exhibition Road, Kensington, London SW7 2HE**  
 The free Exhibition Road Music Day, London's contribution to European Music Day, returns as leading arts, scientific, academic and cultural organisations gather to present a day of exciting sounds from around the world. A large range of indoor and outdoor stages will play host to a variety of musical performances, covering as many genres as one can think of. From urban to jazz and folk to rock, there'll be plenty of different types of performances taking place and plenty of new music for you to enjoy. Music Day is also an excellent opportunity to catch a glimpse of bands before they embark on the hectic summer music festival circuit.

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> BBC Radio 1's Hackney Weekend**

*23rd & 24th June 2012*  
**Hackney Marshes, London E9 5PF**  
 Radio 1's Big Weekend free music festival comes to London's Hackney Marshes in 2012 for the biggest event of this kind they've ever staged, to mark the London



*Olympic Posters: artistic take on the famous Olympic rings*

2012 Olympics. A host of British and international artists including Leona Lewis, Will.i.am, Jessie J, Florence & the Machine, Lana Del Rey, Ed Sheeran and Tinie Tempah will be performing across the six stages to 100,000 people. Tickets to the event are free (plus £2.50 handling fee), but demand will be high and luck will play a part if you're successful in securing one. To be in with a chance of getting a ticket you must have registered your details and uploaded a photo on the BBC Radio 1's Hackney Weekend website before 11pm on Monday 19th March. Only those who have registered will be able to apply for tickets (maximum of two) online or by phone, and if you're a Hackney resident or live in one of the other five Olympic

boroughs you'll have a better chance of getting in. More than 25 acts have been announced so far - including White Stripes frontman Jack White, Hackney-born rapper Professor Green and hip hop duo Rizzle Kicks - with more to be confirmed in due course.

**From 23<sup>rd</sup> London Festival of Architecture**

*23rd June - 8th July 2012*  
**Various locations across London**  
 'The Playful City' is the theme for this year's London Festival of Architecture. Spread across various locations during a summer in the city that welcomes the Olympics for the first time since 1948, the 2012 festival seeks to look into the ways that both Londoners and visitors can become part of the fabric of the city. In acknowledgment of the Olympics, public spaces will be reinterpreted to encourage physical fitness and festival participants will be encouraged to play in, and play with, the surrounding city. There will also be open studios, public realm installations, performances and other activities taking place in an arc around the City core.

**From 24<sup>th</sup> City of London Festival**

*24th June - 27th July 2012*  
**St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4M 8AD & various venues nearby**  
 Founded in 1962, the City of London Festival celebrates its 50th anniversary with a special programme based on the theme: City of London - Trading Places with the World. This long-standing summer programme brings music, visual arts, film, walks and talks to several high profile venues and outdoor spaces throughout the Square Mile. Highlights include a performance of the Berlioz Requiem at St Paul's by LSO and the London Symphony Chorus conducted by Berlioz expert Sir Colin Davis. Classical guitarist John Williams returns with a special performance at Fishmongers' Hall while the popular Street Pianos will hit the streets once again.

CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL, LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL © ROBERT PIWKO LONDON 2012 © RACHEL WHITEHEAD, COURTESY TATE BRITAIN



*St Paul's is one of the main venues for the City of London Festival*

**From 25<sup>th</sup> Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship**

*25th June - 8th July 2012*  
**All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon, London SW19 5AE**  
 Wimbledon is the most watched tennis event in the Grand Slam calendar, with a TV audience of untold millions and over half a million spectators attending the All England Club to catch the action live. Will this be the year that Britain finally has its first Wimbledon winner since Fred Perry way back in 1936? Last year, much like 2010, Andy Murray made it gamely to the semi-finals but was obliterated by a rampant Rafael Nadal for the second year running. Still, with it being the third successive semi-final for the Scot at Wimbledon surely it is only a matter of time before Murray gets a shot at the title.

**From 25<sup>th</sup> Dr Dee - An English Opera**

*25th June - 7th July 2012*  
**English National Opera, London Coliseum, London WC2N 4ES**  
 Damon Albarn (of Blur and Gorillaz fame) invites you into the weirdly wonderful world of Dr Dee, astrologer, alchemist, magician and spy. Unbelievably, this is not a fictitious character drummed up in the deep subconscious of Albarn's mind: the man in question was an influential 16th century Englishman, an advisor to Elizabeth I, credited with inventing the concept of the British Empire, developing maps, and (successfully) putting a hex on the Spanish Armada. Dr Dee opened at the Manchester International Festival and received glowing reports; it now opens in London at the famous Coliseum.

**From 25<sup>th</sup> Les Troyens**

*25th June - 11th July 2012*  
**Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD**  
 Not seen at the Royal Opera House since 1972, Les Troyens makes a glorious return to the London opera scene in June. The Royal Opera's Music Director Antonio Pappano conducts

David McVicar's re-imagining of Hector Berlioz's epic tale of the Trojan war and its aftermath. Written during the 1850s, Les Troyens was Berlioz's largest work and was seen as a summary for his entire artistic career. Internationally renowned names such as Jonas Kaufmann, Eva-Marie Westbroek and Anna Caterina Antonacci make for a stellar cast in this five-act classic that is sure to be one of the major events in the whole Royal Opera Season.

**From 26<sup>th</sup> Poetry Parnassus**

*26th June - 1st July 2012*  
**Southbank Centre, London SE18XX**  
 It seems that the Olympic grandeur has rubbed off on everyone this year as June sees London's Southbank Centre host the largest poetry festival in the UK, with 205 poets from each of the competing Olympic countries descending upon London to battle for their country. Southbank's artist in residence Simon Armitage and artistic director Jude Kelly are behind the ambitious cultural event, which will host readings and workshops with the poets. There will be performances aplenty and a UK tour before the final release of a poetry collection containing all of the 205 chosen poems.



*Can Serbia's Novak Djokovic defend his Wimbledon title this summer?*

**26<sup>th</sup> Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam**

*Tuesday 26th June 2012*  
**Barbican Hall, Barbican, London EC2Y 8DS**  
 The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra plays Oliver Messiaen's mammoth Turangalila Symphony in their second performance of the season at the Barbican Hall. Messiaen describes his work as a love song and the symphony, inspired by the myth of Tristan and Isolde, is possibly one of the most important orchestral works of the last century. French virtuoso Jean-Yves Thibaudet takes on the demanding challenge of the notoriously severe piano solo and the symphony, tailor made for vast orchestral forces and extended percussion, also showcases the ondes Martenot - an early electronic musical instrument invented in 1928 by French cellist Maurice Martenot.

**From 27<sup>th</sup> Henley Royal Regatta 2012**

*27th June - 1st July 2012*  
**Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 2AQ**  
 Henley Royal Regatta is a historic occasion, set in a riverside village that has hardly changed



*Berlioz's Les Troyens returns to the Royal Opera House*

in the last two centuries and bringing some serious competition to the water in one of Britain's most famous summer sporting events. It has been running since 1839, and has grown from a local event into one of the biggest meetings in rowing, attracting crews of international quality to an array of Challenge Trophies. The draw is still conducted on a knock-out basis with only two boats racing in each heat. Nineteen events take place over the five days including six classes of races for Eights and aces for Coxless Pairs and Double Sculls. But this is just as much a social event, with thousands gathering to eat picnics and drink Pimm's aplenty by the waterside. Expect lots of Tim-Nice-But-Dims as the English upper and middle classes descend in their hoards.

**From 27<sup>th</sup> New Designers 2012**

*27th June - 7th July 2012*  
**Business Design Centre, Islington, London N1 0QH**  
 Young designers gather in their thousands to showcase their fresh and innovative creations at the Business Design Fair. Acting as a springboard for young graduates exiting the safety of higher education the exhibition brings together designers from all ends of the spectrum. Everything from fashion to graphics, interiors to architecture is displayed as over 3,500 students represent over 200 top UK design courses. The New Designers shines a spotlight on the hottest trends to come and gives a glimpse into the future of British design, whether you work in the industry, love discovering new talent, or just enjoy a good browse.



**From 28<sup>th</sup>  
Edvard Munch: The  
Modern Eye**

28th June - 14th October 2012  
Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG

Combining his pictorial work with his interest in the modern representational forms of photography and film, the exhibition presents Edvard Munch as a twentieth century artist, thoroughly reflecting the modernity of his era. The expressionist and printmaker's famous paintings include The Sick Child, Madonna and, perhaps his most iconic piece, The Scream, which was part of a series called The Frieze of Life, in which Munch explored the universal themes of love, fear, death and anxiety. This showcase of the Norwegian symbolist painter is sure to be a hit with London art lovers.

**From 28<sup>th</sup>  
Masterpiece London**

28th June - 4th July 2012  
The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London SW3 4SR

Dedicated to finding the best in art and design, Masterpiece London is truly an exhibition for collectors to be excited about. Expect contemporary and historical paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings and antiques representing both UK and international galleries, collectors and dealers. Held on the South Grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, the 2012 event promises to build on the successes of previous years; offering a staggeringly wide array of high-end products and some superb dining options, from the iconic custom-built Le Caprice restaurant to the Mount Street Deli with its strong selection of sandwiches, pastries and salads.

**From 28<sup>th</sup>  
The Genius of  
Hitchcock**

28th June - 21st July 2012  
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS and Wilton's Music Hall, Shadwell, London E1 8JB

Up to nine surviving silent films by Alfred Hitchcock, together with brand new live musical scores, will be shown at this film festival presented by the British Film Institute. Part

of the London 2012 Festival, The Genius of Hitchcock features painstakingly restored early masterpieces such as The Lodger, the director's first trademark movie in which a landlady suspects her strange lodger may be on a killing spree. This festival is a chance to bring these lesser-known but visually imaginative pieces of work back to life once more - a celebration of one of the true masters of suspense. Of the nine restored films, so far only two are complete: The Pleasure Garden (28th & 29th June - Wilton's Music Hall) and The Lodger (Sat 21st July - Barbican Centre).

**From 30<sup>th</sup>  
Diamonds: A Jubilee  
Celebration**

30th June - 8th July 2012  
& 31st July - 7th October 2012  
Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

This spectacular exhibition at the Ball Supper Room at Buckingham Palace shows the many ways in which diamonds have been used by British monarchs over the last 200 years. Diamonds: A Jubilee Celebration is just one of a number of exhibitions organised by the Royal Collection to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee including a photography exhibition at Windsor Castle and a special show of royal treasures at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Scotland, as well as a touring exhibition of ten drawings by Leonardo da Vinci which travels to five UK venues from January 2012 to January 2013. There are two exhibitions at the Queen's London residence (see also: the Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomy, 4th May to 7th October 2012 [PAGE 54](#)). The spectacular Diamonds exhibition includes an unprecedented display of the Queen's personal jewels, both inherited and acquired during her reign. Highlights include the necklace and earrings made for Queen Victoria to wear at her coronation, a small crown worn by Queen Victoria for her official diamond jubilee portrait, and a Garrard Fringe brooch - remodelled from a set of diamonds given to Queen Victoria by the Sultan of Turkey. The exhibition is also a great opportunity to view the Palace's interior.



Only a psycho would miss out on Alfred Hitchcock's silent films

**From 30<sup>th</sup>  
Royal Ballet: Les  
Noces**

30th June - 9th July 2012  
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD  
Retiring Royal Ballet director, Monica Mason, departs with a "director's choice" of works she particularly loves, finishing with Bronislava Nijinska's Les Noces. The piece is performed at the Royal Opera House as part of a triple bill along with two other works: Frederick Ashton's Birthday Offering, and A Month in the Country based on Turgenev's play of the same name. A Month in the Country and Les Noces are well matched as both present Russian stories of rituals and all three have a particularly strong place within The Royal Ballet repertory. But it's the final work, Les Noces, which is likely to stand out as a must-see classic of 20th-century ballet and will no doubt be a poignant moment for the departing Royal Ballet director.

**From 30<sup>th</sup>  
Buckingham Palace  
Summer Opening**

30th June - 8th July & 31st July - 7th October 2012  
Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

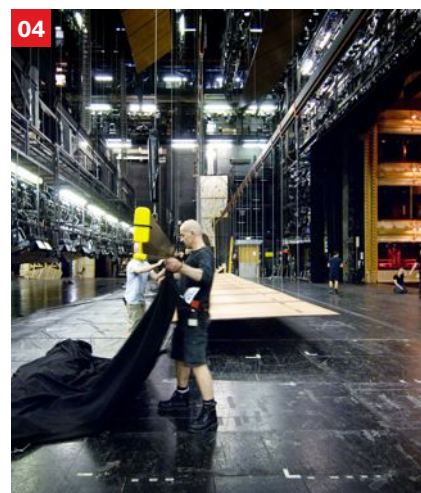
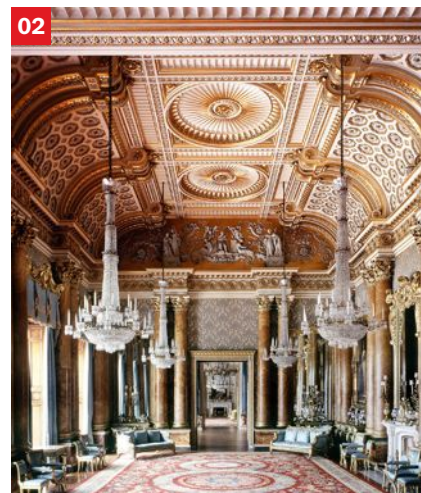
Every summer inquisitive visitors get the chance to look round Buckingham Palace and admire the interiors of the principal royal residence, and this year the season is extended until October to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Visitors for the Summer Opening tour are permitted access to the nineteen State Rooms which are still used by the Royal Family to receive and entertain guests on state and ceremonial occasions. Decorated in lavish fashion, they include paintings by Rembrandt, Rubens and Canaletto, Sevres porcelain and some of the finest English and French furniture in the world. There are also some exquisite royal gifts, including Fabergé Eggs, on display. This is a fascinating opportunity to admire the taste - often wonderful, sometimes comically bad - of Britain's monarchy. Also, as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, there will be a special exhibition which will look into how diamonds have been used by British monarchs over the last 200 years. There will be a beautiful display of many of the Queen's personal collection, some of which she inherited by Her Majesty or acquired during her reign. Booking in advance is recommended.

THE GENIUS OF HITCHCOCK, COURTESY BFI

SIX OF THE BEST

**BEHIND THE SCENES**

Yes, it's true, you can go behind the scenes at all of the following London institutions. In fact hundreds of London's most famous places offer revealing 'backstage' tours. *By Vicki Forde*



**01 Houses of Parliament**

WESTMINSTER, LONDON W1  
This unique tour, available every Saturday, explores the ins and outs of Parliament - including the Commons and Lords Chambers and Queen's Robing Room.

**02 Buckingham Palace**

VICTORIA, LONDON SW1  
During the Queen's annual visit to Scotland in August and September, the 19 State Rooms are opened for you to explore. This year's Jubilee sees the opening also include nine days of July and a week in October to coincide with the special Diamonds exhibition.

**03 BBC Broadcasting House**

PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON W1  
Exploring the newly restored hub of the BBC, you'll be able to follow in the footsteps of the famous and even create your own radio drama.

**04 Royal Opera House**

COVENT GARDEN, LONDON WC2  
See the theatre buzzing with pre-performance action, take an architectural tour of the auditorium or view an exhibition on the Director of Royal Ballet - Monica Mason.

**05 Globe Theatre**

BANKSIDE, LONDON SE1  
Envisage the Globe as the notorious entertainment district it once was. Special effects, sword fighting and costume dressing bring Shakespeare's world back to life.

**06 Fuller's Brewery**

CHISWICK, LONDON W4  
Discover the secret recipe of Fuller's beers, take a look back at the heritage of the brewery and finish the tour with a refreshing tasting session. On top of its award-winning ales, the brewery also boasts the oldest wisteria in the UK, planted in the early 19th century.

1. HOUSE OF COMMONS © CATHERINE BEBBINGTON 2. THE ROYAL COLLECTION © 2012. HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II. BLUE DRAWING ROOM, BUCKINGHAM PALACE PHOTO CREDIT ANDREW HOLT 3. BROADCASTING HOUSE, COURTESY OF BBC 4. BACKSTAGE RIGGING, PHOTO CREDIT SIM CANETTY-CLARKE, COURTESY OF ROH 5. SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE © PRESS ASSOCIATION 6. FULLER'S BREWERY, COURTESY OF FULLERS



# A SUMMER OF FESTIVALS

Forget six hour coach trips and damp sleeping bags; the world's greatest music is playing right on our doorstep... *By Tessa Edmondson*

**K**ING OF ALL FESTIVALS, Glastonbury, hangs up its mud splattered plastic poncho this year to take a well earned breather, giving its budding little festival siblings a shot at grabbing some of the limelight.

There is an abundance of capital based festivals all grappling for your attention in 2012, and with the frenzied buzz that will come hand-in-hand with the Olympic Games and the party of historical proportions to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, it looks like London is in for a seriously exciting summer.

Judging by the most recent line-up releases, it looks as though the world's top music-makers agree: top notch acts including Rihanna, Nicki Minaj, Lana Del Rey and Bruce Springsteen are all hopping over the pond to enjoy the beautiful British weather (well, we can dream). Whilst home-grown talents Florence & the Machine, Ed Sheeran and Hot Chip are all taking to the stage.

Most festival organisers have chosen to take full advantage of London's many sprawling parks, with Hyde Park, Clapham Common and Victoria Park all hosting huge events. But this year also sees festivals venturing out into some of London's less popular spaces. Bloc makes its home on the Royal Victoria Docklands and Radio 1's Weekender sets up camp on the Hackney Marshes.

So all that's left to do is pick the festival best suited to you. Then go forth, frolic in the fields, wear flowers in your hair, dance on people's shoulders, and then hop on the tube and return to your sweet smelling mud-free homes. Perfect.



**Field Day**  
Saturday 2nd June 2012

**Victoria Park, London E3.** East London's finest gather in leafy Victoria Park for plenty of hipster fun in the sun. Famed for its melancholic folk, surging electro and seriously long queues [PAGE 75](#)



**The Apple Cart Festival**  
Sunday 3rd June 2012

**Victoria Park, London E3.** London's newest family-friendly festival likes to think of itself as a great gooey melting pot of fun, bubbling over with comedy, cabaret, art and outstanding music [PAGE 75](#)



**BBC Radio 1's Hackney Weekend**  
23rd - 24th June 2012

**Hackney Marshes, London E9.** Lana Del Rey, Ed Sheeran and Florence & the Machine perform for the lucky Londoners that are crafty enough to secure tickets to Radio 1's free festival [PAGE 80](#)



**iTunes Festival**  
1st - 31st July 2012

**Roundhouse, London NW1.** The iTunes line-up is a closely guarded secret, but one thing that's guaranteed is that it will be a magical month filled with delightful and free music delicacies [PAGE 95](#)



**Bloc**  
6th - 7th July 2012

**London Pleasure Gardens, London E16.** Peace and Love get a distinctly urban makeover as Bloc puts down its roots in the city. Bold electro, awe-inspiring visuals and a 6am licence! [PAGE 96](#)



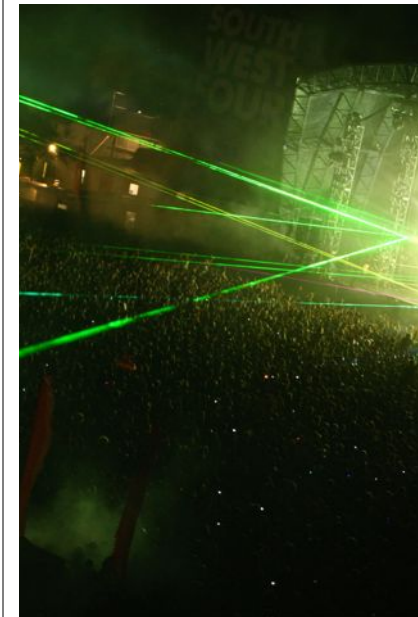
**Lovebox**  
15th - 17th June 2012

**Victoria Park, London E3.** London's answer to Glastonbury celebrates a decade of love in 2012, with Friendly Fires and Hot Chip providing this year's heart, soul and rock and roll. [PAGE 78](#)



**Wireless**  
6th - 8th July 2012

**Hyde Park, London W2.** The antithesis of Woodstock, Wireless is west London's big and boisterous festival with a line-up to match. This year party girl Rihanna and feisty Brit Jessie J headline [PAGE 96](#)



**South West Four Weekender**  
25th - 26th August 2012

**Clapham Common, London SW4.** Chase and Status lead the way at London's high-energy dance festival. This year it comes with the added bonus of falling on the August bank holiday [PAGE 113](#)



**Hard Rock Calling**  
13th - 15th July 2012

**Hyde Park, London W2.** Bruce Springsteen blasts out heartland rock in London's glorious back garden. If you want rock anthems and music icons, Hard Rock Calling is the festival for you [PAGE 98](#)



**1-2-3-4 Shoreditch**  
Saturday 1st September 2012

**Shoreditch Park, London N1.** 1-2-3-4 brings summer to a well earned close with alternative fun for alternative kids with after-party madness spreading throughout East London [PAGE 123](#)



01



A tale of one city: Robert William Buss's *Dickens' Dream* (1875), an uncompleted homage to the prolific author's imagination

LONDONERS

## MR DICKENS AT 200

London celebrates the bicentenary of the writer who brought the capital to life *By Felix Lowe*

“LONDON. MICHELMAS TERM LATELY OVER, and the Lord Chancellor sitting in Lincoln's Inn Hall. Implacable November weather. As much mud in the streets as if the waters had but newly retired from the face of the earth, and it would not be wonderful to meet a Megalosaurus, forty feet long or so, waddling like an elephantine lizard up Holborn Hill.”

Thus, with magical imagery, begins Charles Dickens' *Bleak House*, the celebrated author's scathing satire on the Byzantine legal system in London. Dickens' tale, which was serialised between 1852 and 1853, guides the reader through the foggy dank streets of London to the maze of the peaceful Inns of Court, where “lawyers lie like maggots in nuts” a stone's throw from the city's worst slums and criminal haunts.

As a social commentator and urban novelist, Dickens was second to none, leading the essayist Walter Bagehot in 1858 to

observe that Dickens described London “like a special correspondent for posterity”. While Dickens managed to capture the joy and despair of the city during the injustices of the Victorian era, his acute depictions of London are ones that often still ring true today.

Just moments after the evocative opening description of muddy Holborn Hill, the narrator of *Bleak House* takes issue with the area's pedestrians, “jostling one another's umbrellas in a general infection of ill-temper, and losing their foot-hold at street-corners, where tens of thousands of other foot passengers have been slipping and sliding since the day broke”. Sounds a bit like rush hour today, does it not?

Any UK resident with a TV and access to newspapers could not have failed to notice the spike of interest in Dickens last Christmas – you'd be forgiven for thinking that Miss Havisham was a new celebrity pop singer in the mould of Lady Gaga.

Underpinning this Dickensian eruption was the BBC's three-part series of *Great Expectations*, which cast Ray Winstone and Gillian Anderson as Magwitch and Miss Havisham. No sooner had the critically acclaimed production finished airing than the advance previews of this autumn's new film adaptation starring Ralph Fiennes and Helena Bonham Carter in the same roles hit our screens.

There is, of course, good reason why Britain has renewed its love affair with Dickens: 2012 does not simply mark London's Olympic year, it is also the 200th anniversary of the birth of greatest novelist of the Victorian period. As such, there's a worldwide Dickens 2012 movement to commemorate the bicentenary of his birth, which fell on 7 February.

Although an international celebration of the life and work of the prolific writer, philanthropist and champion of the poor – with events going on all over the globe, from Albania to Zimbabwe – Dickens 2012 has at its epicentre the city which the author so wonderfully portrayed in the bulk of his work: London.

Dickens' London is a gritty, unromantic place where fog and poverty rules supreme and corruption spreads like a bad smell. Despite the miseries of his youth in London, Dickens also had much love for the city in which he spent the majority of his 58 years. He routinely walked the city streets – sometimes for 10 or 20 miles at a time – and his descriptions of nineteenth-century London bring the sights, sounds and smells of the old city alive.

Appearing on a recent online video about Dickens' London on the Guardian's website, the actor Simon Callow – a Dickens enthusiast – recalled how the writer's friends would often joke that wherever they went in London – be it Fulham, Hampstead or the East End – there, turning a corner, was Dickens.

“He was everywhere and he still is in my imagination,” said Callow as he traced some of the author's haunts around Covent Garden. “It was Dickens' delight to walk round London with friends or visitors and point out, as it were, Dickens' London. He was as much a myth as a man, even in his own lifetime. He celebrated his own existence in these places. It's remarkable how much of it remains intact.”

The best example of an intact piece of Dickens' London is 48 Doughty Street in Holborn. Located between Gray's Inn and Coram Gardens, this Georgian terraced house was Dickens' home for two and a half productive years following his marriage (during which he completed *The Pickwick Papers* and wrote the whole of *Oliver Twist* and *Nicholas Nickleby*, as well as fathering two daughters). Now the site of the excellent Charles Dickens Museum **01**, this is the only one of Dickens' London abodes to survive.

Dickens was actually born in Portsmouth, moving to Bloomsbury aged two before spending an idyllic early childhood in the Kent countryside. When his family moved back to London in 1822 it was to Camden Town – and so started the worst phase of Dickens' life. His father locked

away in a debtors' prison, Dickens was sent to live with a boarding family that would later become the inspiration for the Garland family in *The Old Curiosity Shop*.

A shoe shop by the same name can be found today on Portsmouth Street just off Lincoln's Inn Fields in Holborn, near to where Dickens worked as a legal clerk and court reporter. The white-washed timber building dates back to the sixteenth century and took the name “The Old Curiosity Shop” after the novel was released in 1841 and is probably not the actual inspiration for Dickens' description of his fictional antique shop. It's still open today – and well worth a gander **03**.

To pay for his board and help his family, Dickens was forced to leave school at 12 and work in Warren's Blacking Warehouse on Hungerford Stairs, near the present Charing Cross station. One of his co-workers, who knew all the shortcuts and tricks of the trade, was called Bob Fagin – a name immortalised years later in *Oliver Twist*. This unhappy period in his life was alluded to in his favourite and most autobiographical novel, *David Copperfield*.

Years later, when Dickens was a successful publisher, the author set up his *All The Year Round* periodical offices on the first floor of a building in Wellington Street, opposite Waterloo Bridge, above what is today the aptly-named Charles Dickens Coffee House. In these years, when Dickens was at the height of his fame, he would recall those hard times while eating at London's oldest restaurant, *Rules*, which overlooked the warehouse.

The best way to experience Dickens' London today is to do what the man did himself and cover the city by foot – preferably via a pub or two



DICKENS DREAM BY ROBERT WILLIAM BUSS © CHARLES DICKENS MUSEUM

2. YE OLDE CHESHIRE CHEESE © STEVEN POTTER 3. THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP © STEVEN POTTER 4. THE GEORGE INN © STEVEN POTTER



The Maiden Lane restaurant **05** is still open today, championing British classics such as fish and chips served the old-fashioned way: in a newspaper.

Newspapers and periodicals were the life-blood of Dickens, who made his name as a journalist and continued being one while publishing his novels in weekly instalments. Following the release of his father from prison, Dickens could finally finish his schooling and, on completion in 1827, he joined a law firm in Gray's Inn as a clerk, aged 15. Having learnt shorthand, he became a freelance court reporter and then a political journalist in Clerkenwell.



At the height of his fame Dickens would dine out in Rules restaurant in Covent Garden

These formative years in Dickens' career provided him with much material for novels such as Nicholas Nickleby, Dombey and Son, and especially, Bleak House (which takes place largely in and around the picturesque Inns of Court, much frequented by Dickens).

As a journalist, social chronicler and keen devourer of London's pavements, a thirsty Dickens of course spent a lot of time in public houses – many of which still stand today. The most famous is the delightfully cavernous and rickety Ye Old Cheshire Cheese **02**, whose gloomy charm captivated Dickens, who alluded to the Fleet Street establishment in A Tale of Two Cities.

Beyond nearby St Paul's Cathedral (whose cross atop the dome is described as "the crowning confusion of the great,

confused city" in Bleak House) and over the Thames in Southwark is the National Trust-owned George Inn – London's only remaining coaching inn – which often opened its doors to Dickens **04**.

Further down the river, The Grapes Inn in Limehouse was another Dickens haunt and featured in Our Mutual Friend as "a tavern of dropsical appearance". North of Hampstead Heath is the historic Spaniards Inn, which was mentioned in Dickens' first novel, The Pickwick Papers.

The best way to experience Dickens' London today is to cover the city in the same way as Dickens himself: by foot. The

hosts Wednesday evening walks which feature readings from Dickens' novels, facts from his life and a visit to one of his favourite pubs.

The only surviving house the author lived in, the Charles Dickens Museum, houses more than 100,000 manuscripts, rare editions, personal objects and paintings **01**. Usually open 365 days a year, the museum was founded in 1925 after the Dickens Fellowship saved the building from demolition. Oddly enough for a museum that boasts the world's finest Dickens-related collection, 48 Doughty Street will be closed for much of the Dickens Bicentenary owing to a much-needed £3.2m renovation project, dubbed "Great Expectations". So, make sure you visit by 9th April 2012 otherwise you will have to wait until December and the annual Dickensian Christmas celebrations.

Despite the post-Easter closure of 48 Doughty Street, the Museum of London will be picking up the slack with Dickens and London, the first major UK exhibition of the author for over 40 years. Running until 10th June, the exhibition promises a "haunting journey" using sounds and projections to explore wealth, poverty, prostitution, childhood mortality and philanthropy in Victorian times. Located close to the Barbican Centre, the museum draws on paintings, photographs, costumes and objects that illustrate Dickens' work and manuscripts in his own hand.

Other museums and institutions involved in Dickens 2012 are the V&A Museum, which hosts a bicentenary exhibition that draws on original manuscripts, printers' proofs, first editions and illustrations, focusing primarily on Dickens' favourite novel, David Copperfield; the British Library, which held a Dickens and the Supernatural exhibition until early March; and the National Portrait Gallery, whose Life & Legacy display charts the key aspects of the author's life, and includes his friend Daniel Maclise's famous portrait of a young Dickens aged 26.

For fans of theatre and film, a musical version of A Tale of Two Cities hits the West End stage with a four-week run at the Charing Cross Theatre in April, while the BFI Southbank ran an intriguing Dickens on Screen season until late March. Just stay clear of nearby busy Holborn Hill if you're visiting during rush hour – it would not be wonderful to meet a Megalosaurus...

**"It was Dickens' delight to walk round London with friends and visitors and point out, as it were, Dickens' London"**

Guardian website has numerous commentaries that you can download onto your iPod while following his footsteps. For organised tours, the guides at London Walks wear Victorian-style costumes as they lead guests down Dickensian alleyways on Fridays; the Walks of London website suggests free jaunts around the haunts and famous landmarks of the great novelist; while the Charles Dickens Museum



#### Dickens on Screen

**BFI Southbank** | Until 25th March 2012

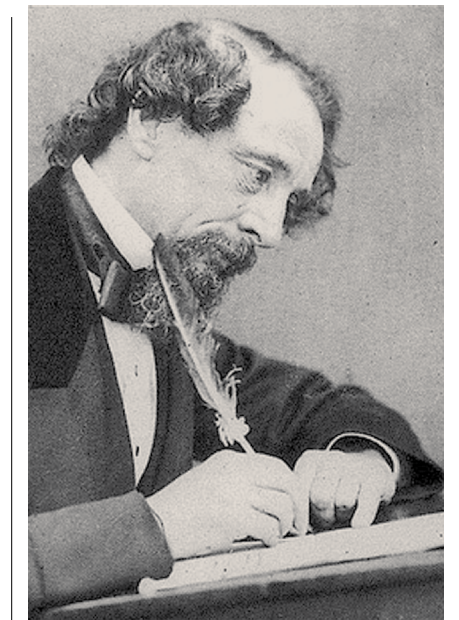
From the multi Oscar-winning Oliver! to the BBC's hit series Bleak House and myriad takes on A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens is the most-adapted novelist on the silver screen and television.



#### Dickens and London

**Museum of London** | Until 10th June 2012

The first major UK exhibition on Dickens for over 40 years is an audio-visual experience drawing on paintings, photographs, objects and rarely seen manuscripts written in the author's own hand..



#### Charles Dickens (1812-70): A Bicentenary

**V&A Museum** | Until 1st April 2012

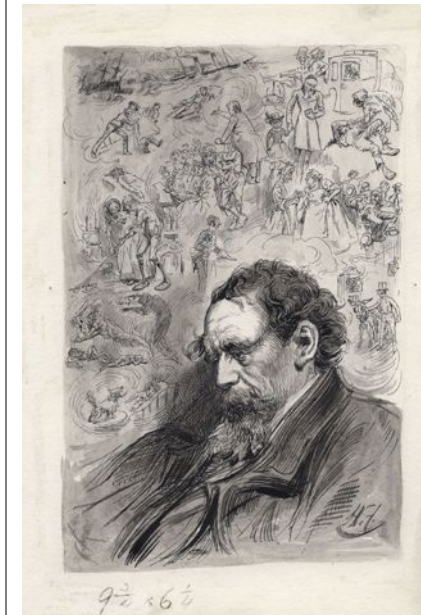
This free display of original manuscripts focuses on Dickens's most autobiographical novel David Copperfield and examines the development of the book through to publication and beyond.



#### Dickens' Women

**Artsdepot** | 23rd & 24th June 2012

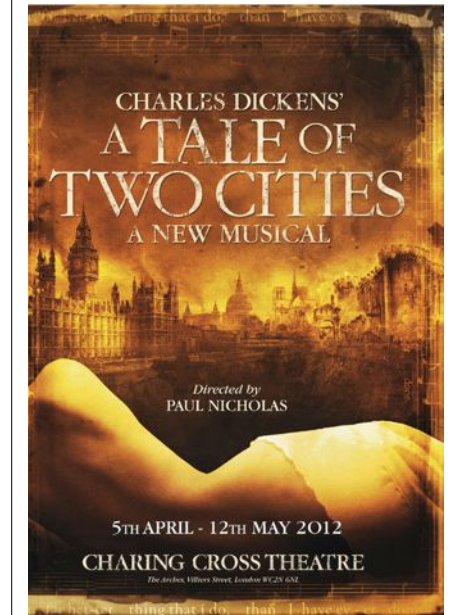
The much-loved actress Miriam Margolyes brings a rich assortment of Dickens' most colourful characters to life in this critically acclaimed one-woman show that has toured the globe.



#### Charles Dickens: Life & Legacy

**National Portrait Gallery** | Until 22nd April

Comprised of prints, drawings and photographs, this display focuses on the key aspects of the author's life and is shown alongside Daniel Maclise's portrait of Dickens as a bright young writer.



#### A Tale of Two Cities: Musical

**Charing Cross Theatre** | Until 12 May 2012

Set in revolutionary Paris and nineteenth century London, Dickens's classic tale of one man's ultimate sacrifice for love is brought to life in this stunning new musical on the West End.